

--72. (New) A method of detecting the presence of the C-terminal globular domain of aggrecan in a biological sample which comprises contacting the sample with the antibody of claim 71.--

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cont
--73. (New) A method for diagnosing the presence of an arthritic condition in a subject which comprises obtaining a biological sample from the subject and then contacting said sample with the antibody of claim 71, wherein said sample is not obtained from the cartilage of the subject and wherein binding of the antibody to a peptide in the sample is indicative of the presence of an arthritic condition in the subject.--


Remarks

Claims 1-65 had been pending in this application but have been canceled hereinabove, without prejudice to applicants' rights to pursue their subsequent prosecution; new claims **66-73** have been added hereinabove, and are presently pending herein. Their addition does not add new matter to the application, as support therefor is found throughout the application, e.g., at pages 3, 8-9 and 25-30.

No fee is deemed necessary in connection with the filing of this Preliminary Amendment; however, if any fee is required, authorization is hereby given to charge the amount of such a fee to Deposit Account No. 04-1928.

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(Date)

Respectfully submitted



Kenneth B. Rubin

Registration No. 36,259

Attorney for Applicant(s)

DuPont Pharmaceuticals Company
Chestnut Run Plaza, 974 Centre Road
Wilmington, DE 19805
1-302-992-3215

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